

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 01181 191041Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13  
OMB-01 /070 W

-----191048 111819 /20

R 191021Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1855  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1181

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, SY  
SUBJECT: IATA VIEW OF SYRIAN RESTRICTION ON JEWS ENTERING SYRIA

1. RECENT AMERICAN VISITOR TO SYRIA BROUGHT TO EMBASSY'S ATTENTION FOLLOWING PASSAGE WHICH HE CLAIMED TO HAVE COPIED FROM IATA TRAVEL INFORMATION MANUAL (TIM), DATED FEBRUARY 1977: "THE GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA REFUSES ENTRY AND TRANSIT TO PASSENGERS OF JEWISH FAITH OF ANY NATIONALITY" (PAGE 277, PROVISION 1C). VISITOR NOTED HE HAD FLOWN INTO SYRIA AND HAD OBTAINED VISA PREVIOUSLY FROM SYRIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. WHILE APPLYING FOR VISA, HE HAD INFORMED EMBASSY OF HIS ADHERENCE TO JEWISH FAITH. HE STATED THAT, IN HIS VIEW, INFORMATION CONTAINED WITHOUT QUALIFICATION IN TIM WAS INACCURATE.

2. VISITOR CONTRASTED PASSAGE ABOUT SYRIAN REGULATIONS WITH FOLLOWING PASSAGE FROM SECTION CONCERNING EGYPT: "JEWISH PASSENGERS OF OTHER THAN ISRAELI NATIONALITY ARE TREATED AS NATIONALS OF THE COUNTRY THAT ISSUED THEIR PASSPORTS" (PAGE 94).

3. REQUEST DEPT CONFIRM ACCURACY THIS INFORMATION AND PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH COPIES OF PERTINENT PAGES OF TIM.  
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ROUTINE APPROACH TO FOREIGN MINISTRY SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO BRING ABOUT CORRECTION TO ALIGN TIM REFERENCE WITH CURRENT SYRIAN POLICY. PRESIDENT ASAD HAS ASSURED US THAT AMERICANS OF JEWISH FAITH WERE WELCOME TO VISIT SYRIA, AND MANY HAVE DONE SO. JEWS FROM SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND MEXICO HAVE ALSO VISITED SYRIA WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. PELLETREAU

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977DAMASC01181  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009